ASBESTOS

Vol. 4 DECEMBER, 1922 No. 6

Christmas Greetings
And All Kind Thoughts
For The New Year

Published by
SECRETARIAL SERVICE
246 North 17th Street Philadelphia, Pa.
(Entrance 1701 Winter Street)

Making an Iron Heat Insulator

SUPPOSE an inventor would offer for sale as a heat insulator one made in the standard form, but composed of solid iron. It is improbable that many purchasers would avail themselves of the opportunity. The inventor would soon find the sheriff at his door.

Suppose, however, that he would construct it of sheet iron in the form of a honeycomb with small cells. The loss through this would be but a fraction of that through the solid walls. Now he improves his invention by reducing, more and more, the thickness of the walls. Increasing efficiency parallels his progress. The iron that rapidly conducts away the heat is being decreased in quantity, while the small air chambers through which heat passes with difficulty are proportionately increased. Could he make the walls sufficiently thin, his insulating material would excel the best of those now on the market.

Similarly, were solid asbestos placed around your pipes it would conduct a very considerable quantity of heat from them. Its peculiar advantage lies in the fact that it can easily be separated into tough strands, and these, in the case of chrysotile asbestos, can be subdivided repeatedly, with no known limit. In 2-Point this is thoroughly accomplished. Fine, loosely felted layers of fibre with diatomaceous earth imprisoned between, are craped. Thus are secured walls extremely thin, and the volume of entrapped air proportionately great.

2 POINT
Heat Insulation

Patented and Manufactured by
NORRISTOWN MAGNESIA & ASBESTOS COMPANY
Norristown, Pa.

... ASBESTOS ...

A MONTHLY MARKET JOURNAL

DEVOTED TO THE INTERESTS OF THE
ASBESTOS AND MAGNESIA INDUSTRIES

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PUBLISHING OFFICE
246 NORTH 17th STREET
PHILADELPHIA, - PENNSYLVANIA

London Office - 2nd Floor, 86-88 Wardour St., W. I.

Volume IV | DECEMBER, 1922 | Number 6

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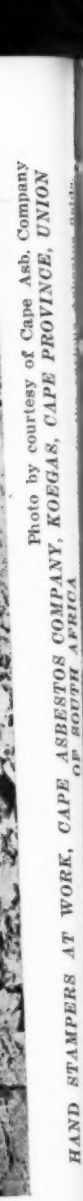
SUBSCRIPTION PRICE

U. S., CANADA AND MEXICO	$1.00 PER YEAR
FOREIGN COUNTRIES	2.00 " "
SINGLE COPIES	.20 EACH

Photo by courtesy of Cape Asb. Company

HAND STAMPERS AT WORK, CAPE ASBESTOS COMPANY, KOEGAS, CAPE PROVINCE, UNION OF SOUTH AFRICA

EDITORIALS



HAND STAMPERS AT WORK, CAPE ASBESTOS COMPANY, KOEGAS, CAPE PROVINCE, UNION OF SOUTH AFRICA

Photo by courtesy of Cape Asb. Company

A Pause.

There comes in this month a short period of time when all the world will pause—will stop its jostling, hurrying scurry—to take account of itself, to do a kindly act, nay, several kindly deeds.

It will pause to help the children; to bring smiles to little faces some of which have smiled but little in their short lifetime; to help the needy; and—just to be glad. For this happy and merry time is Christmas, and as December rolls on, and the 25th draws nearer and nearer, one after another of us, from street urchins to steel magnates, catch the glad Christmas spirit, until on the 24th we lay aside for one short day, our worries and our problems, our petty jealousies and selfish inclinations, so that we may make Christmas Day at least, a symbol of that Peace on Earth and Goodwill prophesied so long ago.

To me it is a wonderful thing—this *pause* in the hurry and bustle of life, a brief respite in the midst of life's worries.

And, fittingly enough, the pause comes just before the New Year, so that within a week we can start afresh on life's journey, heartened by the kindliness of Christmas time, resolved to make the next three hundred and sixty-five days show more of kindness. more of courtesy, more of the self-giving spirit.

To all our readers we wish a Merry Christmas, and then, to all we wish not only a *happy* New Year, but one in which you may all realize at least some of your ideals—a year when each day will show improvement over the day before.

The United States in Foreign Affairs.

A much discussed question in the States for some time has been the advisability, or necessity, for the United States participating in foreign affairs.

Previously, we have been rather a selfish nation, with a stand-off-don't-touch-me air, due, perhaps, more to the fact that we have been so busy within our own boundaries

A CHRISTMAS THOUGHT

Let us think that each sale made means something more than the actual dollars and cents involved.

That the use of Asbestos Products means employment for thousands in improving the World's industry and happiness.

That it takes foresight and courage to invest the large sums of money necessary to dig from Mother Earth her treasure store of Asbestos.

That this industry destroys nothing to produce this wonderful material, but creates something that did not exist before and daily preaches its use to help conserve heat and coal, prevent fire, make automobile transportation safe and a hundred and one other important things.

That we are helping others to keep busy and happy, making it possible for many families to have a little extra money for their daily needs—or some little luxury which otherwise they would never know.

ASBESTOS Limited
8 West 40th Street New York
Works: Bound Brook, New Jersey

that we had not time—or thought we had not—for prying into the affairs of our neighbors across the sea.

This condition has been greatly changed, however, in the last few years, and when people say that Uncle Sam has no business meddling with other nations, and that there is no need for him to hobnob with the powers of Europe, they generally say it for the same reason that the little boy assured himself the turkey gobbler wouldn't hurt him—because he didn't want it to.

It may be inconvenient, expensive, and a great many other undesirable things, for the United States if she becomes involved in the discussions and controversies of other nations, but so long as she occupies the position of power in which she at present finds herself, and, moreover, so long as she feels that her help will do real good, it is doubtful whether she will be able or willing to keep out.

The people of the United States opposed going into war so long as they believed the struggle to be merely one of jealousy among the European nations, and a striving for power: they went in with a rush just as soon as they knew that it meant the upholding of a high ideal.

Likewise, the United States hurried to the scene of Turkish disasters to render aid. And so long as humanity calls the United States will undoubtedly heed.

It only remains for her to be convinced that she is needed in the European Conferences, and that her aid will be beneficial to mankind, when she will, with all her heart and soul, staunchly backed by all her people, give Europe the benefit of her counsels and aid.

Some Calculations and Their Meaning.

One of our readers has been good enough to give us the benefit of an analysis he has made of the figures given in the November issue, covering Canadian production for the first six months of 1922, and we, in turn, are passing them along to the rest of you.

According to these production figures, during the first half of 1922

No. 1 Crude averaged	.24%	of total production for that period
No. 2 Crude averaged	.96%	of total production
Fiberized Crude	.23%	
Spinning Fibres	6.85%	

while the total of these long grades during the period, figures 8.28% of the total production, meaning that those grades below spinning fibres, that is, paper, shingle and cement stocks, made up 91.72% of the total production.

When we compare this with the figures for the first six months of 1921 we find that

In 1921	No. 1 Crude averaged	.70%	of the total production
	No. 2 Crude averaged	1.57%	
	Fiberized Crude	.61%	
	Spinning Fibres	8.68%	

the long grades therefore averaging 11.56% of the total, and the shorter grades 88.44% of the total.

According to figures supplied by W. R. Leventritt, of the Asbestos & Mineral Corporation, before the war, and at a time when most of the properties at East Broughton and Robertson were operating, (those properties producing no crude) the production of crudes and spinning fibres was at least 15% of the total production.

These figures would seem to confirm the statement of numerous geologists to the effect that the percentage of high grade Asbestos obtained from a ton of ore, decreases with the depth at which operations are conducted.

And all these figures indicate that the Canadian Mines will lose money if they try to operate at the prices obtained before the war plus the increased cost of production, simply because the cash value obtained from each ton of ore is much less than it was before the war.

Many consumers, both in the States and abroad, believe that prices will finally reach a level probably 50% higher than the lowest price ruling between 1910 and 1915. As a matter of fact, this 50% would not cover the increased cost of handling a ton of rock, as compared to pre-war prices.

As things now stand, the market is in very unstable condition, because both manufacturers and jobbers of finished materials are afraid to carry any stock, believing that the prices of raw material may go lower.

This condition, coupled with the fact that miners and brokers are indulging at present in the luxury of price cutting, makes it very difficult indeed for manufacturers to know just how they stand, or just how the market stands.

Asbestos High Pressure Jointing

Reprinted from India Rubber Journal.

When pressures of 160 lb. and above became common, engineers began to search for a packing material which would resist such pressures, and a number of composition packings appeared on the market.

These compositions consist essentially of a felted mass of fibres held together by a little rubber, mineral fillings being added according to quality. Asbestos is the most suitable fibre to use, its resistance to fire making it very suitable for this purpose. Apart from its noncombustibility, the fibre of asbestos possesses great tensile strength, it being remembered that altho asbestos yarn does not possess very great strength, this is due to the lack of cohesion between the individual fibres, rather than the lack of strength of the fibres themselves.

Altho all qualities of asbestos are used in these compositions, the type and length of staple of the fibre are important points to consider. The strength of the sheeting depends on the perfect felting of the fibre, and for the best qualities, only long-stapled fibre should be used. South African Blue has been found very suitable for these compositions, but the greater portion of the sheeting made contains the more plentiful Canadian chrysotile. Waste asbestos fibre is only added to the poorer qualities of sheeting, the fibre of the waste being too short, owing to the frequent handling it has undergone.

Fibres other than asbestos are frequently employed, but these result in a very inferior product, vegetable and animal fibres being soon destroyed at the high temperatures at which this type of jointing is used.

It is easy to understand why these compositions are able to withstand the high temperature and pressures which are now so common. The packing is simply a felted mass of mineral matter with a little rubber as a cementing material to keep it together and prevent it from being forced out between the flanges. The sheeting receives considerable rolling and compression during manufacture, and as it vulcanizes in use, it results in a mechanically sound joint.

The first process in manufacture of the sheeting is the mixing of the materials into a plastic dough.

The rubber to be used is first masticated, and made into a solution with the aid of solvent naphtha. This solution is then mixed with the mineral ingredients in a Werner Pfleiderer mixer, until the whole forms a homogeneous paste. The asbestos fibre is then introduced, and the whole well mixed. The better the ingredients are mixed the better the felting action, and consequently the better the resultant sheet. It is advisable to card the asbestos fibre before adding it to the mixture, and if possible to convey the fibre direct from the carding engine to the mixer, the fibre will be introduced in the form of a thin fleece, rather than in masses; this leads to a much better felting.

The number of mixings is legion, each manufacturer having his own formulae, but the general principal of them all is a fair percentage of asbestos (about 40 or 50 per cent), about 10 percent of rubber of low grade, and the remainder various fillings and coloring matter. The usual fillings are magnesia, zinc oxide, barytes, lithophone, etc., and for coloring purposes, carbon black, red oxide, and ochre are used extensively. About 3 or 4 per cent of sulphur is also added.

As to the quantity of solvent required, this is easily determined by actual trial, and will vary according to the type of fillers present. Ingredients such as barytes, carbon black, etc., contain a large quantity of air clinging to the fine particles of the powders, and this porosity necessitates the use of increased solvent. Seeing that a considerable portion of the solvent can be recovered for further use, there is no great loss attached to the use of the naptha, and sufficient should be used to give the dough an easily worked plasticity.

When the dough is thoroly mixed (which takes about one hour) it is spread out into a large sheet by passing between water-cooled rollers. The sheet is taken to a vacuum chamber, where the solvent is evaporated off. After the sheets have dried, they are placed between zinc sheets, and subjected to a pressure of 500 lb. to the square inch by means of the hydraulic press. The sheets are then trimmed square, and to standard sizes, then calendered in order to give a glazed finish.

Huge quantities are sold in the form of standard sized sheets, but for flanges and joints of standard sizes it is far better for the manufacturer to punch out the shapes and sizes required. The waste sheeting is shredded in some form of tearing machine, and is introduced into succeeding mixings.

Sheeting made by the above process does not possess very great tensile strength, owing to the lack of pressure during manufacture. The sheets are certainly pressed on the surface, but the inside of the sheet does not receive sufficient pressure and will be found to be very soft. This difficulty was overcome by "doubling" two thin sheets. The two were solutioned on one side, placed face to face, and passed between heated calenders, so forming a strong sheet of the desired thickness.

This was a great improvement, and manufacturers began to extend the idea, building up the sheet by superimposing a number of thin layers. The calenders used consisted of two bowls, one heated and the other water-cooled. The dough was placed in the nip and of course adhered to the hot bowl. The distance between the two bowls was gradually increased and so allowed the sheeting to build up in the form of very thin layers. Seeing that a second layer came into contact with the previous layer before the latter was dry, the two layers were firmly plied together. When the sheet had been built up to the required thickness the calenders were stopped and the sheet cut and removed. This process made a sheet about 1 yard square, and of any desired thickness up to about 3/32 inch. Any attempt at building thicker sheets proved unsuccessful, the material of which the sheets were composed was a bad conductor, and the final layers did not receive sufficient heat from the hot bowl. This caused the last layers to take a long time to dry, and apart from the loss of time it was found that the sheet tended to tear before being finished.

Nowadays the calenders are made with a large diameter hot bowl. This allows of a much longer sheet being built up in one operation. The idea has been extended still furthur by building up on a long belt conveyer. This gives a sheet of any desired length. The difficulty found in building up thick sheets is overcome by plying together two or more thin sheets.

In order to keep the sheets of a standard thickness, many ingenious indicators have been introduced in order to inform the workman when the desired thickness has been obtained. The main principle of these instruments consists of two movable arms fitted with small rollers at one end. One arm has a graduated quadrant attached, whilst the other arm acts as a pointer moving over the quadrant. The arm with the quadrant rolls on the surface of the large steel bowl, whilst the other roller rests on the sheet being built up. As the sheet builds up the pointer arm gradually moves away from the bowl, and this movement is indicated by the pointer across the quadrant. Owing to the position of the pivots of the arms, the movement of the pointer is magnified several times, and it is easy to judge when the required thickness is attained.

Another method depends on the weight of dough used. By means of direct experiment, the exact weight of dough required to produce a sheet of a definite thickness is ascertained. Afterwards, by weighing out the dough for each machine, the thickness of the sheets is kept fairly standard. The method is not very accurate; in the first place, different classes of mixings require different weights, and even with the same mixing large errors crop up owing to variation in the specific gravity of the various ingredients.

The sheets when removed from the calender are again passed thru heated calenders, in order to give a better finish. Finally the sheets are given a coat of shellac varnish.

It often happens that a joint has to be frequently broken and re-made and to avoid the necessity of using a fresh packing each time, the use of metallic finished sheeting has become very popular. Before trimming or varnishing the sheet, it is given a coat of thin rubber solution, and powdered aluminum dusted on. This gives a good appearance to the sheet, and when in use the joint can be broken without tearing the sheeting. Another similar finish is to use a coating of blacklead. This answers the same purpose as the aluminum.

Recovery of the Solvent.

Owing to the high cost of the naptha, it is very desirable to recover as much as possible for use again. The fumes rising from the hot calenders must be removed from the machines owing to their toxic action on workers, and it

is an easy matter to convey these fumes to a condenser. where a considerable portion of the naptha fumes will condense and may then be used again. Seeing that naptha exerts a considerable vapor pressure at ordinary temperatures, the air passing out will still contain sufficient naptha to give this pressure. And as this vapor pressure falls as the temperature falls, it is obvious that in order to get good results the air must be cooled as much as possible. Also, seeing that a vapor pressure may be expressed in the form of so many gallons to the 1,000 cubic feet, the smaller the quantity of air the smaller will be the quantity of naptha carried to atmosphere. On the other hand, sufficient air must be drawn off in order to keep the shop fairly free from naptha fumes.

Usually, about 50 per cent of the solvent may be recovered in this way.

Testing High-Pressure Jointing.

Seeing that the sheets are usually sold by weight, the specific gravity test is most important. A small portion of the sheet is weighed in air, and then weighed in water. The weight in air is then divided by the difference between the two weights, the quotient giving us the specific gravity.

Another important test is the tensile strength. Strips of a sheet are taken and broken in any of the usual types of tensile machine. To give comparative tests, it is necessary to adopt some standard size and thickness of strip.

Comments on the Wire Market

The Standard Underground Cable Company, in commenting on market conditions in the fine wire market, say:

Copper continues rather quiet, at 13⅞ to 14c, tho there are some indications that slightly higher prices may obtain in the near future. Zinc remains in the same inactive condition, that has ruled for several weeks past, the New York price holding at about 7.40 to 7.45c for prime western. The foreign demand for zinc has slacked off a little in recent weeks, especially for future delivery.

MARKET CONDITIONS

Optimism in business circles is becoming more marked every day, and while some question whether such optimism is justified, we find almost everywhere signs of returning prosperity, and increasing business.

Comments of the Department of Commerce on the general business situation, published the latter part of November, are headed "Production back to 1920 levels" and they sum up their statements by saying "Taken all together, the statistical indicators reflect conditions decidedly in the upswing of the business cycle."

Forbes names eleven contributing factors to the improved business conditions. They are the great increase in bank clearings, record breaking volume of railroad traffic, booming postal receipts, more pronounced scarcity of workers, heaviest steel production in two years, continuation of the building boom, more general availability of coal, addition by railroads of 200,000 to their working forces, swelling of oil production, full time schedules of the standard automobile companies.

In general, therefore, business conditions are distinctly deserving of optimism. How about our own particular Industry?

Raw Material.

The Miners and brokers of Asbestos seemingly have just realized the fun of taking business from the other fellow at any price. Price cutting has been practiced quite generally by makers of paper, pipe covering and textiles, but up until recently, prices on raw material have been fairly firm. The present condition is perhaps partially due to the fact that demand for raw materials is beginning to be felt, and sellers are making a mad scramble to get their share. Naturally manufacturers are not slow to realize their advantage, and try to force even lower prices.

Where will it end—and when will sellers realize that they are harming themselves as much as their competitors by the mad proposals made?

African producers are finding it difficult to compete with Canadian material. One African correspondent, in commenting on the financial conditions in South Africa,

says: There are signs of solid trade revival, but we are a long way from being out of the wood, and the greatest caution is necessary. South Africa has always shown a remarkable power in trade revival, possibly owing to her vast potentialities and small white population.

Textiles.

Generally, we find textile manufacturers looking forward to good business in the near future. The Brake Lining trade is particularly good, some manufacturers being scheduled ahead many months on this material. Other textiles show little demand at present but indications seem to point toward good business within a few months.

Insulation.

Insulation business continues highly satisfactory, and many contractors look forward to fairly good business all winter. Naturally with the winter season building slackens somewhat, and insulation of course follows the building trend. Eighty-five per cent Magnesia and Air Cell Covering appear to be in equal demand. Those firms handling the full Asbestos-Magnesia line say that pipe coverings show the greatest activity.

Paper.

The business in paper and millboard continues unusually good, and prices continue firm. Orders during October exceeded by quite a nice margin those for the same month last year and in 1920.

A comment from our English correspondent on general business conditions in the Asbestos line states that there is undoubtedly an improving tendency in inquiries for asbestos goods. Competition is keen but there is no doubt that business is broadening and with the advent of the new Government there is a feeling of greater confidence and consequently more enterprise. Britain's export business on account of the exchanges and the high tariffs has been very much reduced, but even in this direction there are increasing signs of a return to "normalcy."

On the whole, then, the Asbestos Industry can have a right jolly Christmas, and enter the New Year with high hopes and pleasurable anticipations.

Production Statistics

California.

The California Mining Journal, issued by the California State Mining Bureau gives figures for production of asbestos (presumably both amphibole and chrysotile varieties) in California for 1920 and 1921, as follows:

1920— 66 tons valued at	$2,740.00
1921—410 tons valued at	19,275.00

Rhodesia.

	August 1922 Tons	£
Bulawayo District		
Birthday (Willoughby's)	127	2,548
Nil Desperandum (Afr. Asb. Min. Co. Ltd.)	207	4,143
Pangani (J. S. Hancock)	30	594
Shabanie (Rhod. & Gen. Asb. Corp.)	294	7,356
Lomagundi District		
Ethel (Union and Rhod. Tr. Ltd.)	122	3,050
Victoria District		
Balmain (Afr. Asb. Min. Co., Ltd.)	31	620
Gath's (R. & Gen. Asb. Corp. Ltd.)	365	6,120
King (Rho. King Asb. Co. Ltd.)	535	10,708
	1711	38,139

Production during August 1921 amounted to 1212 tons.

Detailed figures for September 1922 are not yet in our hands, but we are informed that the total output for that month was 1,558 tons.

Union of South Africa.

Sales and Shipments for September 1922 were as follows:

	September, 1922
Transvaal	150 tons valued at £2,351
Cape	131 tons valued at £2,355
Total	281 tons valued at £4,706

For the previous year, 1921, sales and shipments in September amounted to £7,369.

THE LATEST STYLE IN ASBESTOS SUITS

Percy Hillburn, cameraman, looked like a Ku Klux Knight when filming "Hearts Aflame," but the outfit, an asbestos suit, was designed to protect him when his work took him into forest fires.

Contractors and Distributors Page

CONTRIBUTED

The way of the transgressor is hard—on the pipe covering industry. Contractors transgress sound business policies when they make a quotation at or below cost. Business done, to which a profit does not accrue, is not fair competition. It establishes a price level in the trade that is demoralizing to the Industry.

The cost of pipe covering contractors should not vary appreciably on materials. Naturally, overhead costs will show a differential. Labor cost is the same. Every contractor should know what it costs him to do business and should never fail to add a percentage of profit to the cost price. There is nothing to be gained by "swapping" dollars.

The application of pipe covering is purely a contractual business. The business is with owners, general contractors, steam fitters and plumbers. The methods employed by these four factors, assuming that the owner is a corporation employing a purchasing agent, are the same.

When any of the four cited have a job (the steamfitters and plumbers often hold jobs in their offices until they accumulate several) they invite bids. When the bids are received, almost invariably the three low bidders are picked out and played against one another under the club that they are high, until rather than lose the job, they accept the contract at a ridiculously low figure returning no profit. In this the purchasing agent, general or sub-contractor, is delighted because he can appropriate to carrying his own overhead the saving he has exacted from the pipe covering contractor which should have accrued to the latter as profits.

Another practice in point is where work with the architect results in having Company A's covering specified. The general contractor gets the contract and asks Company A for its price on covering the pipes and boilers. Company A submits its price, which is always high in the practice of the general contractor and Company A is so advised. The company, thinking since its goods are specified, it can make its own price, stands pat until informed by the general contractor that an allowance of so and so (naming a figure considerably below the figure the company submitted) had been estimated as the cost of insulating the job and unless this estimated price is met, he, the general contractor, will have the specification changed to admit of competitive bidding. This club breaks the backbone of Company A it yields and accepts the business.

These practices are quite prevalent in the trade as to method, whether the business comes thru owner, general contractor, steamfitter or plumber.

The remedy: Covering contractors should stand pat on the price submitted and let the business go to the low bidder if all other things are equal. If necessary, the mechanism of local

organizations should be set up whereby bids would be filed at a central point.

The Pittsburg Employers of Asbestos and Insulation Workers recently signed an agreement with the Union, making the rate for Mechanics $1.00 per hour, instead of the former 90c rate.

We note in the October 25th issue of Rubber Age, an article under the title "Recent Patent for Recovering Rubber Solvents" the object of the invention being to provide improved means for recovering the solvent from rubber mixtures during the making of rubber asbestos sheeting materials and during the coating of fabrics with rubber, etc. If any of our readers care to look over this article and the sketches which accompany it, we will be very glad to lend it to them.

A Suggestion from England

An English correspondent makes a suggestion which may be of interest to Canadian Mine Operators.

Many manufacturers in England, and we have no doubt in other European countries as well, would be glad to purchase small quantities, say 10 tons, 5 tons or even 1 ton of Canadian crude at the present time if they could get immediate delivery on such quantities.

For this reason it is suggested that if small stocks of various grades of Canadian could be carried in London and the European capitals, from which stocks prompt deliveries could be made, it would be to the interest of the mine operators and certainly to the British manufacturers.

"ASBESTOS" would be glad to print the comments of the Canadian operators on this subject.

Research and the Asbestos Industry

SOME COMMENTS BY SUBSCRIBERS

We publish letter received shortly after the November issue was mailed:

To the Editor:

The leading editorial in your issue for November calls for the commendation and support of all interested in asbestos. Research to determine the uses and limits of use of asbestos, and the qualities which make it useful for various purposes, is an urgent need and a promising source of profit, but it is expensive and the full profits of the information to be gained can rarely, if ever, accrue to the discoverers. Certain processes may be protected for a time by patents, but any large advance in useful knowledge must soon become public property. And broadly viewed this is desirable.

Research, therefore, should be a co-operative effort on the part of producers and manufacturers, and the chief return should be looked for in an increased and more varied market. Easy as this may be to say, it is, nevertheless, a difficult problem to organize and carry on an efficient research institution which must have access to the fullest information at mines and manufactories belonging to different and competitive owners which must receive due support from all and must give out its findings in strict justice to all. Yet, with mutual confidence this may be done.

May I suggest that you open your columns to a general discussion of such a project and invite interchange of ideas from your readers on the subject.

(Signed) JOHN A. DRESSER.

Montreal, November 23, 1922.

Another reader, who desires his name withheld, also heartily endorses the research idea and goes farther to suggest that each Asbestos miner put into a common fund 50c or $1.00 for every ton of Asbestos sold at a price exceeding $20.00 per ton, and the fund be used to engage an expert chemist whose sole duty it would be to hunt for new uses of Asbestos and broaden old uses.

And then, Consolidated Asbestos Limited asks us to publish in their advertising space this month their announcement that work of this sort has been begun by them. (See page 28.) Our columns are wide open for a further discussion of the subject, and if this office can do anything to help along the cause it stands realy and willing to serve.

Imports and Exports of Asbestos

Imports.

Because the new tariff law went into effect on September 21st, the U. S. Customs Offices in reporting imports, differentiate between imports up to and including September 21st, and those from September 21st to the end of the month. Figures given below on imports, therefore, are for the first twenty-one days of September only; figures for the last nine days will be included in October figures.

Imports of unmanufactured asbestos for September (1st to 21st only) amounted to 10,921 tons, valued at $533,788, this including 10,668 tons, valued $475,973, from Canada, 240 tons, value $57,448.00 from England, and 13 tons, value $367.00 from British South Africa.

Imports of manufactured asbestos for September (1st to 21st) amounted to $22,208.

Exports.

Exports of unmanufactured asbestos for September amounted to 30 tons, valued at $941.

Exports of manufactured asbestos goods were as follows:

Paper, Millboard and Rollboard	198,828	lbs.	$10,420.00
Pipe Covering and Cement	525,024	lbs.	32,707.00
Textiles, Yarn and Packing	51,152	lbs.	35,091.00
Asbestos Roofing	497,143	sq. ft.	19,311.00
Other Manufacturers	202,616	lbs.	61,913.00
Magnesia Pipe and Boiler Covering	209,218	lbs.	11,973.00

The India Rubber Journal reports exports of Asbestos Manufactures from England during October 1922, and compares them with exports for the same month of the two previous years. These figures may prove of interest to our readers:

	1920		1921		1922	
	Tons	£	Tons	£	Tons	£
To Netherlands	108	10,321	55	5,082	31	2,906
France	19	6,898	27	7,140	12	5,839
United States	44	11,930	40	12,491	6	1,334
British India	209	16,551	24	5,797	100	7,629
Other Countries	1,486	122,909	565	45,840	766	41,965
	1,866	168,609	711	76,350	915	59,673

Exports of Unmanufactured Asbestos from Canada

during August and September were as follows;

	August		September	
	Tons	Value	Tons	Value
United Kingdom	185	$17,100.00	153	$13,390.00
United States	8,105	447,348.00	8,907	325,762.00
Belgium	679	51,240.00	335	20,853.00
France	150	8,891.00	381	30,862.00
Germany	1,100	86,911.00	103	11,960.00
Italy	107	10,005.00	89	5,115.00
Japan	155	10,200.00	385	23,812.00
Netherlands	2	150.00		
Other Countries	150	9,225.00		
Total	10,633	$641,070.00	10,353	$631,754.00

The above figures do not include Sand and Waste.

Asbestos Field Notes

Africa.

Major Trevor, an Inspector under the Pretorian Government, reports that sales of Amosite asbestos in 1921 decreased by £13,637, owing chiefly to the difficulties of exchange with Germany and transport charges. At present, however, it is reported that stocks on hand at the Penge Mine are being disposed of at a satisfactory figure.

McBean's Mine (Malips Drift Asbestos Mines Limited) near Malips River continues in a small way. The South African Asbestos Mines, however, failed before arriving at the producing stage. Both these mines produced Amosite.

Major Trevor also reports the development of a valuable deposit of chrysotile asbestos in the serpentines underlying the Black Reef on the Kantoor Berg. The material is reported to be of first grade quality, equal to the best Rhodesian.

California.

The California Mining Journal gives information concerning the Napa Asbestos Quarries, in Napa County, California, and owned by Jas. S. Brogan of San Francisco, and R .R. Norton of Berkeley.

These two gentlemen have located nineteen claims, about one mile west of the Napa-Berryessa road, and one half mile north of the old Perch Ranch, eighteen miles northeast of the town of Napa.

Short fibre chrysotile asbestos is disseminated thruout a body of serpentine which outcrops prominently for a length of about fifteen hundred feet and a width of three hundred feet. Some little prospecting work has been done. The elevation of the property is not over thirteen hundred feet above sea level, and the haul to the railroad at Napa is an easy one over well-kept dirt and gravel roads. Timber for fuel or other purposes is scarce. Spring water and an excellent camp site are located within one-half mile of the deposit.

Arizona. (Indian Reservations)

The Superintendent of the Fort Apache Indian Agency at Whiteriver, Arizona, sends us the following report concerning the San Carlos Indian Reservation:

This field contains some very high grade asbestos, but by reason of there being no market at this time for asbestos, and by further reason of the inaccessibility of the field there is no activity in that line now. The asbestos deposit carries a very heavy overburden so that mining will always be expensive. Unless science develops something to serve as a substitute which will be cheaper, there is no question but that the future will see considerable activity thruout this field at some period yet to come.

Switzerland.

No records or articles that have come to the attention of "ASBESTOS" during recent years have made any mention of asbestos deposits in Switzerland. It is interesting to note, therefore, in a recent report that asbestos mines were worked under the stimulus of war conditions, a total production of 411 tons being obtained during the period of greatest activity, from July 1918 to April 1919. The most obtained during any one month was 60 tons during July 1918.

The most important deposits are in southeastern Switzerland at Poschiavo, in the Canton of Grisons. Part, at least, of the fibre is of the chrysotile type, a small percentage of spinning fibre from three quarter inch to nearly four inches in length being obtained. It is reported that the rocks are broken with pneumatic hammers, tho probably blasting in drill holes made with pneumatic hammer drills is the meaning intended. The asbestos is broken free

of the rock with hammers, and is sifted before sending to the mill.

The product of the mines is transported to the town of LaResigna by aerial cableway. It is planned to operate with twenty men in winter and fifty in the summer time.

Mines are also worked at Val Moleno, Canton of Tessin, and at Val Moiry, Canton of Valais, in Southern Switzerland. The latter mines are at an altitude of more than 7500 feet. Mules are employed to convey the product to the railroad more than fifteen miles distant. Under these conditions it is believed that economical operation is impossible.

With the exception of the small amount of spinning fibre obtained at Poschiavo, the asbestos of Switzerland is of medium quality. Mills for the manufacture of asbestos products are situated in the three districts; the Asbestminen R. G. at Poschiavo, Andrea & Rupp Mills at Val Moleno, and Schiveizerische Eternitwerke A. G. near Val Moiry. The long fibres are separated and spun into thread with the addition of two to ten per cent of cotton. About 1900 feet of thread is made from 500 grams (1.1 lb.) of asbestos. The chief product of the mills is asbestos plate, the short fibres being used for "asbestos wool" and boards. All the products are sold within the country, as they are not of sufficient importance to find a foreign market.

No production figures are available for 1921. As the quality of most of the asbestos is mediocre, the deposits scattered, and some of them inaccessible, any marked improvement in the industry is improbable.

The Editor's Page

I am sure many of our readers do not realize that "ASBESTOS" offers a service quite aside from the material contained in its pages.

Some of the asbestos concerns make it a habit to call on us for all sorts of information. Perhaps they want to know something of the personnel or activities of some asbestos mining, manufacturing or contracting firm; perhaps they want the addresses of manufacturers of certain asbestos products; or it may be they desire representation in a certain territory and write us for suggestions; or a dozen other different things. We welcome such correspondence—we like to feel that our readers are calling on us for service. Therefore, when you need information about anyone or anything in the asbestos line, write "ASBESTOS."

In January we plan to run an article descriptive of the various Arizona properties. This article has been prepared by one who has lived for several years in the Arizona Asbestos territory, and we know our readers will find the article of great interest.

It is very difficult to get information, in readable form, concerning Arizona Asbestos, and we are therefore quite delighted when we succeeded in obtaining this one. The article will be illustrated, of course.

In this issue we have departed from our usual policy, by printing a clipped article of some length. The article in question is the one entitled "Asbestos High Pressure Jointing." As a general thing we bar, absolutely, clipped articles, but this one was so comprehensive, and contained so much information which we know our readers will be glad to have, that we decided to publish. it.

There is in course of preparation at the present time a series of discussions on certain marketing conditions which look to be most interesting. They will be somewhat different from the editorial matter we have previously published, and we feel sure you will find them helpful. At the moment we cannot say just when the first of this series will appear—a more definite announcement as to date and title will be made next month.

ASBESTOS

Don't forget to send us news items about your company. We can't be expected to know by divination when a change is made in your personnel, or a new building is added to your plant. We do receive news items in many devious ways, but the best way is to have the company interested send them in regularly, thus making sure that they are accurate. Some firms have one person in their office appointed for this particular purpose; we suggest that all asbestos companies put this little task in the hands of one individual and make him responsible for it.

Let us remind you once more to send us copies of your printed matter as you publish it. We keep the copies on file for ready reference; we make note of them in "ASBESTOS" so that our readers, if interested, may write you for copies.

Another reminder: That when you employ a new salesman or office man, you see that a subscription to "ASBESTOS" is entered for him. "ASBESTOS" is profitable to the old employee—it is a necessity to the new one, particularly if he has never before sold the asbestos line.

For somehow, not only for Christmas,
But all the long years through
The joy that you give to others,
Is the joy that comes back to you.

NEWS OF GENERAL INTEREST

The International Arbitration Court, the result of a movement sponsored and actively pushed by the International Chamber of Commerce, has just been formed, business giants of twenty-nine nations affiliating with it. The object of the Court is the amicable settlement of commercial disputes between concerns in different countries. Among the prominent Americans connected with the movement are Owen D. Young of the General Electric Company, Irving T. Bush of Bush Terminal fame, Thomas E. Wilson of Wilson & Company, A. C. Bedford, Chairman Standard Oil Company of New Jersey, Frederick S. Snyder, President of the Boston Chamber of Commerce, and Henry M. Robinson, President of the First National Bank of Los Angeles.

Contracts awarded in twenty-seven states in the northeastern quarter of the United States during October totalled 10,436 buildings, valued at $253,136,700; these figures against a total of 9,279 buildings in September, valued at $271,492,800. It is interesting to note that the figures for industrial and residential buildings are considerably higher in October than in September.

Johns-Manville, Inc., predict that American automobiles and motor trucks will use 5,876 miles of brake lining during 1923, 20,000 million feet of which will be needed for replacement purposes.

October fire losses, according to Fire and Water Engineering, were $29,690,320; the September figure was $39,290,050.

The United States Federal Specifications Board and the American Engineering Standards Committee, are co-operating in an effort to lessen the differences in practice between government and commercial orders for various materials, or, in other words, to bring the government specifications into line with the best commercial practice. The Asbestos Paper Manufacturers Association has been asked to assist in this movement.

The Marine Engineer reports that during the past year there was a 37 per cent increase of motor tonnage, compared with 4 per cent increase of steam tonnage.

The New York Journal, in reporting traffic accidents in Los Angeles, states that the great increase in accidents is due to "automobile owners who neglect to keep their brakes in proper condition."

NEWS OF THE INDUSTRY

The Belmont Packing & Rubber Company on November 1st, 1922, took over the entire business and assets of the Atlantic Asbestos Company. All products heretofore manufactured by the Atlantic Asbestos Company will be manufactured and sold by the Belmont Packing and Rubber Company, with the single exception of Carbonate of Magnesia.

Carbonate of Magnesia will be handled by Mr. H. V. Everham, trading as the Atlantic Magnesia Company, P. O. Box 242, Philadelphia, Pa. All unfilled contracts for Carbonate of Magnesia made prior to November 1st, 1922, will be taken over and filled by Mr. Everham.

One of the few real, live wire distributors of raw and finished asbestos is The Asbestos Products Company, 220 South State Street, Chicago. Mr. Frank LeRow was for a long time a successful salesman for Philip Carey Company, and has developed the Asbestos Products Company into a very active and promising condition.

E. C. Miner on October 2nd, 1922, was appointed to the office of Sales Manager of the Multibestos Company, Walpole, Mass. Mr. Miner formerly held the position of Assistant Sales Manager of the same company.

The American Covering Manufacturing Company, Inc., is the new name adopted on November 17th, by C. R. Burkhardt, P. H. Hilbig and L. J. Stadelman, for their Company. They formerly operated under the name American Asbestos Manufacturing Company, but found that many confused them with firms of similar names. Their address, as given in a previous issue, is 336-360 Wayne Street, Jersey City.

Wm. M. Meek, president of the Dominion Asbestos & Rubber Corporation, New York City, recently won first prize for the best solution to the problem (published in the September issue of Sales Management) of the electrical specialty manufacturer who was selling his product at too small a profit in order to meet the competition of similar products which were nationally advertised. The prize, a money one, was handed by Mr. Meek to the Gymnasium Fund of his alma mater, Lafayette College.

The August-September number of The Silver Edge, published by the Raybestos Company, Bridgeport, Conn., and distributed by them to the Automotive Trade, has just reached our desk. As usual, this little journal contains much helpful infor-

mation for their dealers and jobbers, is attractively illustrated, and altogether is a most interesting house organ.

The British Engineers' Export Journal, of issue October 1922, contains a rather comprehensive article on "The Asbestos Industry," illustrated with cuts showing spinning, braiding and weaving machines used in the manufacture of various Asbestos Textiles.

The New York Times, of issue November 23rd, makes mention of a specimen of mountain leather (Amphibole Asbestos) from Yalu River, Korea, which is on exhibition in Morgan Hall, Museum of Natural History, New York City.

We have pleasure this month in congratulating Dr. W. H. Huber, Secretary-Treasurer of the Asbestos Fibre Spinning Company, North Wales, on the occasion of his birthday which occurs on December 22nd, and also of extending birthday greetings to F. R. Anderson, Vice President and Treasurer of the Sall Mountain Company, whose birthday date was November 24th.

Hennig & Company, dealers in Asbestos and Magnesia Products and Engineers' Supplies, Chicago, on September 1st added Merle Adams to their staff. Mr. Adams is an asbestos salesman of wide experience. He is in charge of the Packing Department.

The November issue of "Boxes," a house organ published by the Chicago Mill & Lumber Company, contains a very interesting article "Asbestos in Industry," written by R. H. Lawrence. Assistant Manager of the Sall Mountain Company, Chicago. The article deals principally with the processes thru which Asbestos goes in the making of paper and Air Cell covering.

The India Rubber Journal reports that a fine looking white asbestos yarn of German origin has recently been quoted at a very low price in the Midlands of England. Upon analysis at the Leeds University it was found to contain 52 per cent cotton and 48 per cent of asbestos.

Johns-Manville, Inc., announced on November 5th that it had called for the retirement of all its outstanding preferred stock at $120 a share and accrued dividend, and that it would pay during December a cash dividend of $40 a share on its common stock. A meeting of the stockholders will be called, so it is stated, to authorize conversion of the company's 25,000 shares of common stock into 250,000 shares without par value, at the rate of eight shares of new for each share of old, reserving 30,000 shares for sale to employees on favorable terms.

"Heavy Duty Brake Lining" is the title of a six page folder recently published by the United States Asbestos Company of

Manheim. It treats of brake lining for use on trucks, hoisting engines, cranes, derricks, etc., and will no doubt prove very useful to the users of linings of this character.

From the India Rubber Journal of issue November 11th, we note that the partnership of J. E. Turner, Sydney B. Turner, Clive W. Turner and M. G. Turner, under the style "The Monahan Asbestos Company," 33 Roberts Street, Liverpool, has been dissolved by mutual consent as from October 5th, 1922. C. W. Turner and M. G. Turner are continuing the business.

The November issue of "Raw Material" contains an article under the title "Statistical Position of Asbestos and Marketing Methods."

"Asbestology" is the rather clever name given to a house organ to be published by the Asbestos Fibre Company and the Maple Leaf Asbestos Corporation jointly, for distribution to users of Asbestos Crudes and Fibres. The first number will be mailed about January 1st, and will contain information on the condition of the market, a price chart, and other data of interest, four pages in all.

Our English correspondent reports that Cyprus Asbestos Company stock is quoted at the present time at about 10s per share. The preference dividend of this company is expected to be paid during December.

We understand that the liquidator of the South African Asbestos Mines Limited, is offering the property in the London market for about £5,000. This concern works a blue asbestos property at Haenertsburg, and has spent upwards of £30,000 in developing it. A very optimistic account of the mine's prospects appeared in the September 24th issue of the South African Mining Journal.

London newspapers recently contained an account of The Mediterranean Asbestos Quarries, Limited. This firm was incorporated in July 1922, for the purpose of acquiring certain concessions in the Island of Corsica for the quarrying, marketing and dealing in asbestos. The registered office of the company is 100 Victoria Street, S. W. I., London, and the directors are Sir Lionel Fletcher, C. B. E., Director of Dalgety & Co., Ltd., Chairman; C. J. Matthew, C. B. E., K. C., L. C. C.; D. Graham Pole, S. S. C.; D. N. Dunlop, C. I. E. E., Director British Electrical and Allied Manufacturers' Association; Norman Dudgeon, M. I. M. M., Director Rhodesian King Asbestos Co., Ltd.; J. A Hodgkinson, C. E.; and J. A. Garside, Chairman Rochdale Asbestos Co., Ltd. One of the accounts states: "The directors are satisfied that the property is of great value and can be worked without difficulty and at considerable profit." The property is

said to consist of 3,000 acres of asbestos bearing deposits, on which twenty quarries have already been opened up. Further information can be obtained by writing "ASBESTOS."

The amalgamation of the "Poilite" (asbestos-cement) section of Bell's United Asbestos Co., Limited, with the British Everite and Asbestilite Works, Limited, of Manchester, which carries on a similar business, is creating some interest in asbestos trade circles. The new company will be known as Bell's Poilite and Everite Company, Limited, and the combined business will be under the same management as heretofore. The factories are at Harefield, near London, and at Widnes, in Lancashire, and the new company expects, thru standardization to effect economies in production cost and other improvements. Details of the amalgamation may be had by addressing "ASBESTOS."

S. R. Slaymaker, General Manager of the United States Asbestos Company, has returned from Europe where he spent the last two months. Mr. Slaymaker reports having had a very pleasant trip thru England, France and Belgium where he studied conditions in the Asbestos line, finding a great deal to interest him.

It is with great regret that we announce the death of Arthur Mitchelmore Spear, Vice President of the Asbestos Manufacturing Company, Limited, Lachine, P. Q., Canada. Mr. Spear died at the Royal Victoria Hospital on December 3rd, having undergone an operation several days before. Mr. Spear was born in Cardiff, Wales, coming to Canada about eighteen years ago. He is survived by a wife and four children.

The Lotz Asbestos Company's exhibit in the window of the Hartford Electric Light Company, Hartford, Conn., is attracting much comment in that ctiy, the Hartford Daily Courant devoting over a column to a description of Asbestos Materials in general. and the display in particular.

PATENTS

On November 7th, patent was granted to Frank Christenson, Dunton, Long Island, N. Y., assignor to Johns-Manville, Incorporated, on a roofing material. Application was filed September 29, 1921. Serial number is 504,040. The roofing is described as the combination of a plurality of superposed roofing strips, said strips being provided each with one serrated edge, and being laid diagonally on a roof sheathing, serrated edge of each strip will overlap the straight edge portion of a previously laid strip and the serrated edges will define right angular projections having their sides extending in parallel lines transversely and longitudinally of the roof.

"We are going to have fewer different makes of cars than ever before and those cars which are left are going to be more standardized and dependable." Such is the statement made by Frank A. Meckel in the Oklahoma Farmer, and he goes on to explain that reductions in the prices of nearly all makes of cars has brought about keen competition, resulting in the elimination of those concerns which do not have efficient methods of production, service and sales organizations capable of meeting the situation.

Even at this time there are three hundred makes of cars on the "orphan" list, meaning the list of those cars the manufacture of which has been discontinued.

Those of us who sell to the automobile manufacturers should keep a sharp lookout for "quitters."

Circulars describing the organization, capitalization and prospects of the Pacific Asbestos Corporation, Calaveras County, California, have been received from Pearson & Company, San Francisco, which at present is financing the Pacific Asbestos Company. Anyone desiring to look over one of these circulars can obtain it by addressing "ASBESTOS."

BUYERS CLASSIFIED INDEX

Being a listing of those firms whose products are of particular interest to those in the Asbestos Industry.

Rate for listing supplied on application.

We hope to gradually make this listing of great value to our readers.

CARDING AND SPINNING MACHINES FOR ASBESTOS YARNS

Whitin Machine Works, Whitinsville, Mass.